pipe at certain places; and lesser thickness of surface coating.

(c) Departmental investigations have been carried out by ONGC with a view to fixing responsibility and for taking corrective action.

(d) No, Sir.

Shortfall in crude oil supplies from Russia

4087. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a considerable shortfall in crude oil supplies from Russia since last year;

(b) if so what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) As per Trade protocol between Russia and India for the year 1992, Russia was to supply 4 million tonnes crude oil. However, only 0.212 MMT of crude oil valued at approx. US $ 27.38 million was supplied.

(c) The shortfall in the supplies from Russia is being met from alternative sources.

Opening ONGC regional office in A.P.

4088. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open O.N.G.C. regional office in Andhra Pradesh for effective supervision and liaison;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (c) There is no such proposal with the Ministry. ONGC is already operating in Andhra Pradesh with its project Head Quarters at Rajahmundry. ONGC also has a forward base office at Hyderabad for liaising with the State Government.

Scheme of parallel marketing of Kerosene and LPG by Private Sector

4089. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a scheme of parallel marketing of Kerosene and LPG by Private Sector;

(b) if so, details of the scheme;

(c) what has been the response to the scheme so far; and

(d) what would be the impact of the proposed scheme on pricing and supply of the two petro-products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Under the parallel marketing system, private agencies have been allowed to import Kerosene and LPG using/setting up their own facilities and distribution network for sale of such imported Kerosene and LPG at market determined prices. These items have been decanalised for import.

(c) About 380 entrepreneurs/firms/companies including multinationals have shown interest in parallel marketing of LPG and/or Kerosene. 1800 MT of LPG has already been imported by a private sector company.

(d) The two products under parallel marketing system are not under any price control. However, these products under the public distribution system continue to be marked at controlled prices. The introduction of parallel marketing system is aimed at enhancing the availability of these products.

मिट्टी के तेल के विक्रेताओं द्वारा किया जा रहा कदाचार

4090. श्री गया सिंह: क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि सर्कल नं० 36 के अंतर्गत आनेवाले मिट्टी के तेल के विक्रेता जिनका लाइसेंस नं० क्रमशः 1966/79 और 1172/73 है, राशन कार्डधारियों को मिट्टी के तेल से वंचित रखकर धडल्ले से मिट्टी के तेल की कालाबाजारी कर रहे हैं;

(ख) क्या सरकार को यह भी जानकारी है कि लाइसेंस नं० 1966/79 के मालिक की "अग्रवाल स्टोर" के नाम से एक परचून की दुकान भी है जिसके लिए वह दो ड्रम मिट्टी का तेल (लगभग 400 लीटर) हर समय अपने मकान में रखता है, जिसे वह अपने परचून के सामान के फुटकर ग्राहकों को 6 रु० प्रति लीटर की दर से बेच दे रहा है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त मिट्टी के तेल का विक्रेता "अग्रवाल स्टोर" नामक अपनी दुकान के उधार रजिस्टर में ऐसे ग्राहकों द्वारा उधार पर लिए गए मिट्टी के तेल का ब्यौरा भी दर्ज

रखता है जो उसकी परचून की दुकान से सामान खरीदते हैं;

(घ) क्या उक्त विक्रेता घौला कुंआ स्थित स्टालों पर प्रति दिन अन्य सामान के साथ-साथ सैकड़ों लीटर मिट्टी के तेल की भी आपूर्ति कर रहा है;

(ङ) क्या 1172/73 नं० लाइसेंस का धारक मिट्टी के तेल का विक्रेता प्रति दिन स्थानीय गाँव के खुदरा दुकानदारों को मिट्टी के तेल की कालाबाजारी कर रहा है, जिसे वे दुकानदार 5/-रु० प्रति बोतल की दर से बेच रहे हैं; और

(च) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इन मिट्टी के तेल के विक्रेताओं के विरुद्ध दिल्ली प्रशासन, दिल्ली के सतर्कता विभाग से जांच कराने का इरादा रखती है; यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) से (च) दिल्ली राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र की सरकार के खाद्य आपूर्ति एवं उपभोक्ता मामले के आयुक्त के कार्यालय की प्रवर्तन शाखा में अनुज्ञप्ति संख्या 1172/73 वाले मिट्टी के तेल के डीलर के विरुद्ध एक शिकायत प्राप्त हुई थी और डिपु की दिनांक 12-8-93 की जांच की गई थी । तथापि, अनुज्ञप्ति संख्या 1966/79 वाले मिट्टी के तेल के डीलर के विरुद्ध विगत में कोई शिकायत नहीं मिली है ।

(ङ) और (च) डीलर के विरुद्ध दिल्ली मिट्टी का तेल (निर्यात और मूल्य) नियंत्रण आदेश, 1962 के प्रावधानों के अंतर्गत कार्रवाई की जा रही है ।

Opening of LPG Sector to Private Companies

4091. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the LPG sector has been opened to the private companies for its import and distribution;

(b) if so, the names of the private companies which have shown interest in this new scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have framed guidelines in this respect; if so, details thereof; and

(d) what is the position in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Under the parallel Marketing System, private agencies have been allowed to import LPG using/setting up their own facilities, LPG bottling plants and distribution network for sale of such imported LPG at market determined prices. So far more than 280 entrepreneurs/firms/companies including multinationals have shown interest in the parallel marketing of LPG.

(c) and (d) The important provisions related to Parallel Marketing of LPG are included in the LPG (Regulation, Supply and Distribution) order, 1993. Under this order, the parallel Marketeers are required to intimate the Government, their intimation and capabilities to import, transport, bottle, market, distribute or sale LPG, before they commence these activities and submit a monthly return giving details of the LPG imported by them. Besides, they have to furnish to the Govt. or to such authorities as specified by the Govt. OR on all relevant particulars and information required by the Govt. The parallel Marketeers can only use cylinders of size, shape, design and weight, different from those specified for the Public Sector Oil Companies. The gas cylinder valves and pressure regulators have also to be of size different from that used by the Public Sector Oil Companies.

Survey of Railway Line between Bilaspur-Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh

4092. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when was the survey conducted to lay a new railway line between Bilaspur-Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh and area of land acquired for this purpose;

(b) district-wise area of land acquired and the amount of compensation paid;

(c) cost of the construction assessed after the survey and the cost being assessed at present;

(d) the reasons and difficulties in the past and also at present in giving clearance to the said project; and

(e) the details of the on going action and views regarding the construction of this railway line by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Extension of Nanchandi Express from Meerut upto Saharanpur

4093. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :